

STATE OF KANSAS  
Tenth Judicial District  
**OFFICE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
Steve Howe, District Attorney  
White Collar Crime Division ~ Consumer Protection Division  
**PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

From: Steve Howe  
(Olathe, KS)

Date: April 3, 2009

Upon recent information obtained through an ongoing investigation, our office has been informed of a group of “travelers” who have moved into the Johnson County area committing financial crimes. The “traveler” family members utilize the business names of “Statewide Paving” and “Protective Coatings.” The members of the family are using the last name of “Toogood.”

The two typical “contractor” crimes committed, consist of “traveler” contractors offering to patch a consumer’s driveway for a very nominal fee, but upon completion of the work, use intimidation to elevate the original price to an excessive amount. This “scam” is often perpetrated on the elderly who may be in the home or business alone and intimidated by the situation. In the second instance, a group may identify themselves as a roofing warranty contractor, claiming to be in the area on roof-warranty follow-ups. The ‘contractors’ advise the consumers that the area around the chimney needs immediate repair, which will not be covered under warranty, but should be done immediately. The patch work is not required or needed. In addition to these two scams, the traveler “contractors” may also offer to provide painting or other housing repair services. In some instances, homeowners or business owners are distracted by one “contractor” while another “contractor” steals items from the consumer’s residence or business.

If you are suspicious of any type of activity or feel you have been a victim of this group contact your local police department or the White Collar Crime Division at 913-715-3140.

\*\*\*\*\*